older units, however, require attendance in terms of maintenance and replacement of the worn out parts and also life extension programme to improve their performance. The 200 MW and 500 MW units are running efficiently and giving satisfactory service.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government of India having recognised the importance of R & M way back in 1984 launched a programme (Phase-I—R & M) comprising 34 thermal power stations covering 163 units in the country, resulting in an additional generation of about 10,000 MUs/annum. Phase II—R & M covering 44 stations with 198 units has been taken up for implementation. However, the programme could not progress as per schedule mainly because of paucity of resources with the SEBs. In view of the poor financial health of most of the SEBs, the Government has proposed to create a special fund called Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) starting from 1-4-2000 as additional Central Plan Assistance to SEBs for undertaking *inter-alia* R & M and Life Extension of existing old and inefficient plants.

Power Finance Corporation is also providing loan assistance to SEBs for R & M of existing power stations.

Requirement of Power in the Country

4083. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the installed capacity of power generation as on 31st March, 1999 was 93,249.6 MW;

(b) the peak shortage increased from 11.3% in 1997-98 to 13.9% in 1998-99; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to meet the power requirement of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In order to improve availability of power and generation capacity and make optimal use of the available power resources in the country, the following measures have been taken:—

(a) Expeditious implementation of capacity addition programme. The installed capacity of power in the country has increased to 97836.88 MW on 31-3-2000.

(b) Promotion of measures for demand side management.

(c) Renovation and modernisation (R&M) of existing old generating units.

(d) Disbursement of loans by Power Finance Corporation for improving operation and maintenance of thermal power stations under accelerated generation programme.

(e) Promotion of inter-state and inter-regional power transfers.

(f) Coordinated operation of Hydro, thermal, nuclear and gas turbine power stations in the regional power system.

(g) Augmentation of transmission, transformation capacity in the power system and installation of shunt capacitors to improve the voltage.

(h) Reduction of transmission and distribution losses.

With the above measures, the peak deficit has reduced from 13.9% in 1998-99 to 12.4% in 1999-2000.

Electricity dues of IDPL

4084. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than rupees 27 crores as electricity dues are pending against IDPL, Hyderabad which is referred to BIFR; and

(b) if so, the action initiated to clear the dues early on behalf of the PSU and help the State Electricity Board running in huge losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir. The amount of electricity dues of APSEB/AP TRANSCO upto February, 2000 is about Rs. 34.00 crores.

(b) These dues will be dealt with in accordance with the decision regarding the revival of IDPL.